OLR Bill Analysis SB 1065

## AN ACT CONCERNING LICENSED ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELORS.

## SUMMARY:

This bill reinstates a requirement that alcohol and drug counselor licensure applicants complete 360 hours of education approved by the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner, including at least 240 hours relating to the knowledge and skill base associated with the practice of such counseling. PA 12-197 had eliminated the requirement.

By law, to become a licensed alcohol and drug counselor, an applicant must also:

- 1. complete 300 hours of supervised practical training in alcohol and drug counseling that the commissioner deems acceptable,
- complete three years of supervised paid work or an unpaid internship that the commissioner deems acceptable that involves working directly with alcohol and drug clients (a master's degree can be substituted for one year of such experience),
- 3. pass a DPH-prescribed examination, and
- 4. generally have a master's degree and have completed at least 18 graduate semester hours in counseling or counseling-related subjects (the 18 graduates hours need not be part of the master's program).

EFFECTIVE DATE: upon passage

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 10 (04/01/2013)